CONCEPT/MISSIONS OF THE MULTI-STATE TASK FORCE

The MSTF serves as the Division HQs of the deploying Brigade Combat Team, and all associated task forces, i.e., medical, aviation, and logistical. The 21st Division (Light), the JRTC Operations Group, assumes Operational Control (OPCON) of the BCT, and player task forces only upon successful deployment from the Intermediate Staging Base, Camp Warrior, into the Cortinian Theater of Operations. The 21st Lt and the 10th COSCOM (both replicated by OPSGRP) retain release authority over supplies/resources moving into the theater, but that is really only to assure that the Division (MSTF) is achieving success. The OPSGRP will not assume C2 of the D-Rear, unless there is catastrophic failure.

To put this into clear and concise ARNG terms, the following scenario is offered:

The National Command Authority, President Bush, has accepted a mission tasking from the United Nations, to assist the nation of Cortina. President Bush ordered the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, to direct Army Forces into Cortina. The Chief of Staff, US Army, has ordered the Oregon Division, commanded by MG Byrne, to deploy a Brigade Combat Team, the 41st, into Cortina. MG Byrne has directed the Division Support Command slices, commanded by COL Truesdell, to support the BCT deployment. COL Truesdell, supported by G-staff elements, G-1 thru G-6, will provide Administrative/Logistical (non-tactical) support to the BCT. The MSTF is not permitted to provide C2 to the BCT in the maneuver box, nor to the other supporting task forces. The OPSGRP/21st Lt provides C@ to those units. However, in order to provide overall admin/log support to all, the MSTF must have visibility on the reports out of the units. The best recommendation as to how to accomplish this is to build a signal architecture, thru the Signal Company, listed on the BCT Troop List, to provide TACLAN capability at the D-Rear, on the daily LOGSTAT and PERSTAT. These reports are sent at least daily from the BCT/BSA through the LSA/Corps Rear, to the 21st Lt. We recommend that these reports are simultaneously transmitted to both the 21st Lt and the MSTF. This gives the MSTF staff the ability to perform mission analysis, MDMP, and issue WARNORDs/FRAGOs to standard, 1/3-2/3s rule, and have their plans approved by the 21st Lt/OPSGRP. Additionally, we recommend that the MSTF have a SEN located at their D-Rear HOs, so they have MSE capability, to talk and request clarification and/or additional information on the reports received. The MSTF absolutely does not need FM capability to anyone in the maneuver area. The OPSGRP does not permit combat guidance from the D-Rear to the player units. Additionally, the OPSGRP does not permit LNOs from the D-Rear and/or BCT at the 21st Lt. This is to maintain confidentiality, the doctor-patient relationship, between the maneuver units and the Observer Controllers.

"Forging the Army National Guard Warrior Spirit!" May 2002

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